

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A multi-layer structure for packaging formed by at least an inner layer, an outer layer and an intermediate layer, said intermediate layer having an islands-in-a-sea structure comprising a resin A constituting sea portions and a functional resin composition B constituting island portions, the resin composition B having gas-barrier and oxygen-absorbing properties and comprising a gas-barrier resin, an oxidizing organic component and a transition metal catalyst, the sea portions occupying not more than 80% of the area of the intermediate layer in cross section, and the inner layer and the outer layer being resins having adhesiveness to said resin A.

2. (previously presented): A multi-layer structure for packaging according to claim 1, wherein the island portions have an average domain diameter r of smaller than $3.5\ \mu\text{m}$ and a dispersion parameter Q of larger than 0.68, the average domain diameter r being expressed by the following formula (1),

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n r_i}{n} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

and the dispersion parameter Q being expressed by the following formula (2),

$$Q = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i \cdot \ln Q_i}{\ln(1/n)} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

wherein r_i is a domain diameter, n is a number of domains, and when a short diameter of domain is a_i and a long diameter of domain is b_i , the domain diameter r_i is $r_i = (a_i + b_i)/2$, and

$$Q_i = \frac{\pi (r_i/2)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \pi (r_i/2)^2}$$

3. (original): A multi-layer structure for packaging according to claim 1, wherein the resin A is a polyester.

4. (canceled).

5. (canceled).

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): A multi-layer structure for packaging according to ~~claim 6~~ claim 1, wherein the oxidizing organic component is not ~~existing~~ present in the sea portions comprising the resin A.

8. (original): A multi-layer structure for packaging according to claim 1, wherein the organic resin B has a melt viscosity relatively higher than that of the resin A.